

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A catheter, comprising:

a shaft portion defining a guidewire lumen and an inflation lumen having a longitudinal cut extending radially from an outer surface of the shaft to the guidewire lumen, wherein said inflation lumen is arcuate shaped;

at least one support strip entirely embedded within a wall of the shaft between the guidewire lumen and an outer surface of the shaft; and

a guide member.

Claim 2 (original): The catheter of claim 1, further comprising a reinforcement member disposed adjacent to the inflation lumen and entirely embedded within the wall of the shaft.

Claim 3 (original): The catheter of claim 2, further comprising a joint member disposed between the support strip and the nearest adjacent end of the reinforcement member.

Claim 4 (original): The catheter of claim 3, wherein the joint member is constructed of one of a polyolefin.

Claim 5 (original): The catheter of claim 3, wherein the joint member is partially embedded within the wall of the shaft.

Claim 6 (original): The catheter of claim 3, wherein the joint member is entirely embedded within the wall of the shaft.

Claim 7 (original): The catheter of claim 3, wherein the joint member is fixed within a groove in the shaft.

Claim 8 (original): A catheter, comprising:

a shaft portion defining a guidewire lumen and an inflation lumen having a longitudinal cut extending radially from an outer surface of the shaft to the guidewire lumen, wherein said inflation lumen is arcuate shaped;

a pair of support strips entirely embedded within a wall of the shaft portion between the guidewire lumen and an outer surface of the shaft portion and disposed on opposing sides of the longitudinal cut;

a reinforcement member disposed adjacent to the inflation lumen between the inflation lumen and the outer surface of the shaft portion and entirely embedded within the wall of the shaft portion; and

a pair of joint members each disposed between an end of the reinforcement member and one of the pair of support strips.

Claim 9 (original): The catheter of claim 8, further comprising:
a guide member.

Claim 10 (original): The catheter of claim 8, wherein the joint members are selected from the group consisting of a polyolefin, and a polyolefin copolymer.

Claim 11 (original): The catheter of claim 8, wherein the support strips are selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, titanium, tungsten, and Nitinol.

Claim 12 (original): The catheter of claim 8, wherein the support strips are a high modulus polymer.